AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims in this listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-10. (cancelled)

11. (New) A facsimile apparatus for transmitting data to a facsimile destination via a public telecommunication network, comprising:

a receiver that receives e-mail data from a sender;

a memory that stores a password and a domain name;

an acquiring section that acquires a password and a sender domain name from the sender, the sender domain name being included in a sender address;

a converter that converts the e-mail data into facsimile data;

a comparator that compares the password and the sender domain name acquired by said acquiring section, with the password and the domain name stored in said memory respectively; and

a facsimile transmitter that, when a result of the comparison indicates that the password and the sender domain name acquired are the same as the password and the domain name stored in said memory, transmits the facsimile data to the facsimile destination, and that, when a result of the comparison indicates that the password and the sender domain name acquired are not the same as the password and the domain name stored in said memory, does not transmit the facsimile data to the facsimile destination.

12. (New) The facsimile apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising a

transmitter that transmits error mail to the sender when a result of the comparison indicates that the password and the sender domain name acquired by said acquiring section are not the same as the password and the domain name stored in said memory.

13. (New) The facsimile apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the facsimile destination is designated by a facsimile destination address included in the e-mail data.

14. (New) The facsimile apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the sender is a personal computer.

15. (New) The facsimile apparatus according to claim11, wherein, when the facsimile data is transmitted to the facsimile destination, a log including information relating to the sender and the facsimile destination is transmitted to a manager node.

16. (New) A facsimile apparatus for transmitting data to a facsimile destination via a public telecommunication network, comprising:

a LAN interface section that receives e-mail data from a sender;

a memory that stores at least one domain name;

an acquiring section that acquires a sender domain name, included in a sender address, from the sender;

a converter that converts the e-mail data into facsimile data;

a comparator that compares the sender domain name acquired by said acquiring section, with the domain name stored in said memory; and

a facsimile transmitter section that, when the acquired sender domain name is the same as the domain name stored in said memory, transmits the facsimile data to a designated facsimile destination.

17. (New) The facsimile apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said LAN interface section, said memory, said acquiring section, said converter, said comparator, and said facsimile transmitter section are integrated in the facsimile apparatus.

18. (New) A facsimile apparatus for transmitting data to a facsimile destination via a public telecommunication network, comprising:

a receiver that receives e-mail data from a sender;

a password table that stores passwords;

an acquiring section that acquires a password from a destination address attached to the e-mail data; and

a transmitter that transmits facsimile data converted from the e-mail data, to the facsimile destination via the public telecommunication network when the acquired password is stored in said password table,

wherein said transmitter does not transmit the facsimile data to the facsimile destination when the acquired password is not stored in said password table.

19. (New) The facsimile apparatus according to claim 18, further comprising:

a domain name table that stores a plurality of domain names;

wherein said acquiring section acquires a sender domain name, included in a

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sender address, from the sender, and said transmitter transmits the facsimile data, converted from the e-mail data, to the facsimile destination via the public telecommunication network when the sender domain name acquired from the sender is stored in said domain name table.

20. (New) A method for transmitting data to a facsimile destination, using a facsimile apparatus via a public telecommunication network, the facsimile apparatus having a memory that stores a password and a domain name:

receiving e-mail data from a sender;

acquiring a password, and a sender domain name, included in a sender address, from the sender;

converting the e-mail data into facsimile data;

comparing the password and the sender domain name acquired, with the password and the domain name stored in the memory respectively; and

transmitting, the facsimile data to the facsimile destination when a result of the comparison indicates that the password and the sender domain name acquired are the same as the password and the domain name stored in the memory, and not transmitting the facsimile data to the facsimile destination, when a result of the comparison indicates that the password and the sender domain name acquired is not the same as the password and the domain name stored in the memory.

21. (New) A method for transmitting data to a facsimile destination, using a facsimile apparatus via a public telecommunication network, the facsimile apparatus having a memory that stores at least one domain name:

receiving e-mail data from a sender;

acquiring a sender domain name, included in a sender address, from the sender;

converting the e-mail data into facsimile data;

comparing the acquired sender domain name, with the domain name stored in the memory; and

transmitting the converted facsimile data to the facsimile destination, when a result of the comparison indicates that the sender domain name acquired are the same as the domain name stored in the memory, and not transmitting the facsimile data to the facsimile destination, when a result of the comparison indicates that the sender domain name acquired are not the same as the domain name stored in the memory.